

# FORM B – BUILDING



Assessor's Number 0064000132 USGS Quad Boston N. Area(s) Form Number 731

Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 54 Hancock St.

Historic Name Albert Fletcher Spaulding House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1874

Source Lexington Minute-man

Style/Form Italianate

Architect/Builder

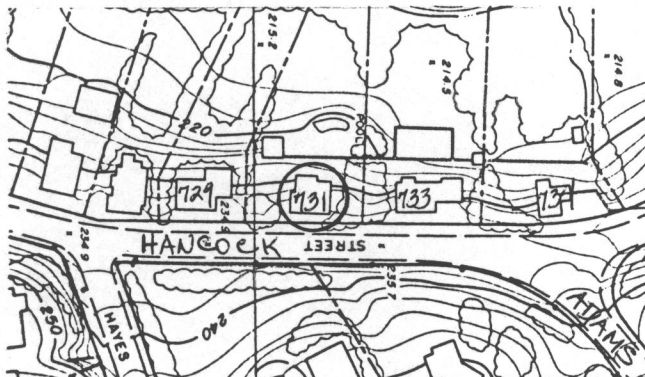
Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Garage



Major Alterations (with dates)

One-story addition on north side; connector between front dormers; rear porch (dates unknown)

N

Condition Good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes Date

Acreage 0.7 A.

Setting On a heavily-trafficked residential street in a neighborhood of large, high-style 19th- and early 20th-century houses

Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month / year) January 1998

Follow Massachusetts Historical Commission Survey Manual instructions for completing this form.

## BUILDING FORM

### ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ *see continuation sheet*

*Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.*

54 Hancock St. is one of several higher-style, side-gabled, three-bay, center entrance Italianates in Lexington and is a well-preserved example of the type. This house is rectangular with a rear ell, 2½ stories, three-by-one bays, and side-gabled with a small off-center rear chimney. The two-story rear ell is front-gabled. The house is set on a brick foundation, clad with wood clapboards, and roofed with asphalt shingles. The center entrance has side pilasters and both transom and sidelights; windows are 2/2 double hung sash. Italianate finishes include cornerboards, a broad frieze board across the facade, paired brackets and dentils under the cornice, and window surrounds that have a projecting cornice and plain frieze. A connector has been added between the gabled dormers on the facade. Off the north elevation is a one-story side-gabled addition which is also on a brick foundation and has wide cornerboards and a dentil course under the cornice, but the cornerboards are wider than and the dentils a different style from those on the original house, so this addition is probably later, though sympathetic. A porch extends across the back of the original ell; the small two-car garage has a hip roof and wood drop siding.

### HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☐ *see continuation sheet*

*Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.*

This house was built in 1874 by Albert Fletcher Spaulding (1841–1895), who that year had married Catherine Johnson, the widow of Charles E. Johnson (1833–1871), who was the son of Charles W. Johnson in the house now at 9 Burlington St. (MHC #742). After Spaulding's death, Mrs. Spaulding sold this house in 1902 to George O. Whiting, who lived at what is now 8 Adams St. (MHC #697) and also owned the houses at 52, 56, and 58 Hancock (MHC #729, 733, and 734).

### BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ *see continuation sheet*

Hudson, Charles. *History of the Town of Lexington*. Revised and continued to 1912 by the Lexington Historical Society.

Boston: Houghton Mifflin, 1913. 2: 327.

*Lexington Minute-man*, 19 Sept. 1874.

Lexington Valuation Lists. 1872–1875.

Middlesex Registry of Deeds. Deeds. Cambridge, MA. 3003: 481.

Worthen, Edwin B. to Mrs. Bruce Currie, 16 February 1951. Worthen Collection. Cary Library, Lexington, MA.

☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*